



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

UPDATE: PROJECT CEASEFIRE
LA MONTE, MO., FELON SENTENCED
FOR ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF FIREARM

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a La Monte, Mo., man was sentenced in federal court today for being a felon in possession of a firearm. Today's sentencing, Graves said, marks additional progress under Project Ceasefire, the district's ongoing anti-crime initiative.

Jason R. Fisher, 29, of La Monte, Mo., was sentenced by U.S. District Chief Judge Dean Whipple this morning to three years and four months in federal prison without parole.

On Sept. 10, 2003, **Fisher** pleaded guilty to being a felon in possession of a firearm. By pleading guilty, **Fisher** admitted that he was in possession of a Norinco 9 mm Uzi-type machinegun on April 16, 2003. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for any felon to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Fisher** has two criminal felony convictions for possession of a controlled substance in 1995 and 1996.

Fisher was originally charged with being a felon in possession of a firearm in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on July 10, 2003.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Jess E. Michaelsen. It was investigated by the Johnson County, Mo., Sheriff's Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

Project Ceasefire

Project Ceasefire, launched in October 1999, is a cooperative initiative by federal and local law enforcement and the Kansas City Crime Commission that targets for federal prosecution persons who unlawfully use or possess firearms.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at
www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow